

NUMERALS OF THE TAKARI ALPHABET

Numerical figures found in the Devashesha-Takari inscriptions follow the decimal system of notation as in the Sharada. The forms of the figures maintain fair uniformity throughout though verifications are noticed here and there.

We give below a brief description of each figure (see Table No. 9).

The figure 1 (one) is written more frequently by a semicircular curve facing down. It is also represented in some cases by a circle. In modern Takari the curve shows a loop on the left.

The figure 2 (two) is represented by two connected curves written one below the other. In modern Takari it resembles the initial *u*.

The figure 3 (three) is also formed like two with the addition of a small stroke at the foot on the right. In the modern Takari the stroke is looped at the upper end.

The form of figure 4 (four) resembles the Devanagari figure of 4. In the Chamba plate of Anandvardhana it retains its earlier form.

The figure 5 (five) which closely resembles the sign of *p* is almost the same as in the Sharada. In the Treaty document (col. VIII) the right hand vertical is replaced by a cursive stroke with a bend towards the right at the bottom.

The figure 6 (six) in Takari is a complex figure though written in a single stroke of pen. It has a loop at the upper end and the cursive strokes on the left and the right.

The figure 7 (seven) looks like the Nagari figure 1.

The numerical figure 8 (eight) has a 'S' like form with a curve (col. I) or a slanting stroke (cols. VI, VII) or a short horizontal (col. VIII) at the top.

A long drawn curve on the right moving towards the left attached to a circular loop at the top makes the figure 9 (nine). It is not materially different from the Sharada figure.

Small dot or a circle (in modern Takari) represents the figure of zero.